

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /069 W
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R 150822Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9470
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANTANANARIVO 1302

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, MA
SUBJECT: PARTIAL RESULTS OF JUNE 30 LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS

REF: ANTANANARIVO 1221

1. GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT OFFICIAL RESULTS OF JUNE 30 LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS WOULD NOT BE KNOWN UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH. LATEST RESULTS, PUBLISHED LAST WEEK, COVERED 10,780 VOTING DISTRICTS OUT OF A TOTAL OF 11,619. IN THE DISTRICTS COVERED THERE WERE 3,827,217 REGISTERED VOTERS, 3,336,553 ACTUALLY VOTING, AND 109,024 BLANK OR INVALID BALLOTS CAST. THESE FIGURES PRODUCE PERCENTAGES HIGHLY FAVORABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT: 87 PERCENT VOTER TURNOUT AND 97 PERCENT OF THOSE VOTING FAVORING THE NATIONAL FRONT'S SINGLE LIST OF CANDIDATES.

2. ABSTENTIONS AND BLANK OR INVALID BALLOTS WERE HEAVILY CONCENTRATED IN ANTANANARIVO CITY, COMPLETE BUT UNOFFICIAL RESULTS OF WHICH WERE AS FOLLOWS: 238,917 REGISTERED, 174,900 VOTING, AND 35,755 BLANK AND INVALID BALLOTS CAST. HUS, OVER 40 PERCENT OF THE CAPITAL'S REGISTERED VOTERS EITHER DID NOT VOTE AT ALL OR CHOSE NOT TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NATIONAL FRONT'S CANDIDATES.

3. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN HAVE GONE TO SOME PAINS TO RATIONALIZE OR DENOUNCE THIS LACK OF SUPPORT FOR THE NATIONAL FRONT IN ANTANANARIVO AND IN OTHER UNNAMED LARGE CITIES. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID A LOT OF ABSTENTIONS WERE DUE TO STUDENTS, REGISTERED IN CAPITAL, HAVING GONE BACK

TO THEIR PARENTAL HOMES DURING ELECTION PERIOD AND NOT VOTING FOR THAT REASON. ANTANANARIVO'S MAYOR, AKFM LEADER RICHARD ANDRIAMANJATO, ATTACKED THE "PRIVILEGED CLASSES AND OTHER BOURGEOIS" WHO HAD DEMONSTRATED "THEIR LACK OF ATTENTION TO THE CANDIDATES OF THE NATIONAL FRONT OR THEIR LACK OF APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESENT POLITICAL ORIENTATION." OTHER GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS HAVE ATTRIBUTED ABSTENTIONS AND BLANK VOTES TO DISTASTE FOR CERTAIN CANDIDATES RATHER THAN OPPOSITION TO NATIONAL FRONT AND ITS POLICIES. MAN-IN-THE-STREET INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY MADAGASCAR MATIN REVEAL SOME VOTER RESENTMENT OF THE EXTREME AND VIOLENT PARTISANSHIP SHOWN BY PROMINENT "CAMPAIGNER-CANDIDATE," PRESUMABLY ANDRIAMANJATO HIMSELF, WHICH ANTAGONIZED VOTERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, MINISTER OF INTERIOR AMPY PORTOS TOLD PRESS THAT MONIMA STRONGHOLD OF TULEAR HAD REDEEMED ITSELF BY ITS VOTE OF APPROXIMATELY 65 PERCENT IN FAVOR OF NATIONAL FRONT AS AGAINST 35 PERCENT ABSTENTIONS AND INVALID BALLOTS. OTHERS COMMENT THAT REVOLUTION NOT GOING FAST ENOUGH. AN ARGUMENT CONSPICUOUS BY ITS ABSENCE IS THE OBVIOUS ONE THAT A SINGLE LIST OF CANDIDATES IS NOT CALCULATED TO PRODUCE A LARGE TURNOUT.BARRETT

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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